

143rd triumphs in boxing 'smoker'

Story and photos by Yvonne Johnson

APG News

The 143rd Ordnance Battalion boxing team overwhelmed its cross-post rival, the 16th Ordnance Battalion, to win the rematch of the Morale, Welfare and Recreation Boxing Smoker at the Hoyle Gym and Fitness Center Oct. 15.

The Edgewood fighters won 12 of 17 matches for their coach Adoon Jordan in his final event before departing the installation for Germany in January.

"This was awesome," Jordan said. "We worked hard and it showed."

He thanked drill sergeant Duane Edwards, his assistant coach, for sharing his expertise.

"His knowledge really helped, along with other dedicated coaches," he said.

"They laid it all on the line," he added of the warrior Soldiers. "And the ones that lost went out standing."

Raymond McFarland coached the 16th Ordnance Battalion team.

Heavy pounding in the ring and a lot of screaming from unit supporters outside of it dominated the evening as fighters poured it on.

There were impressive performances by boxers on both teams.

"Safety was the biggest concern," said Joseph Cooper, chief of referees from USA Boxing in Washington, D.C., who called each fight.

Earlene Allen, MWR senior programmer, said the next boxing smoker may be in the late February to early March time frame.

"Before this one was over people were asking about the next one," Allen said.

"We'll continue to plan boxing events as long as the command, community and Soldiers continue to support it."

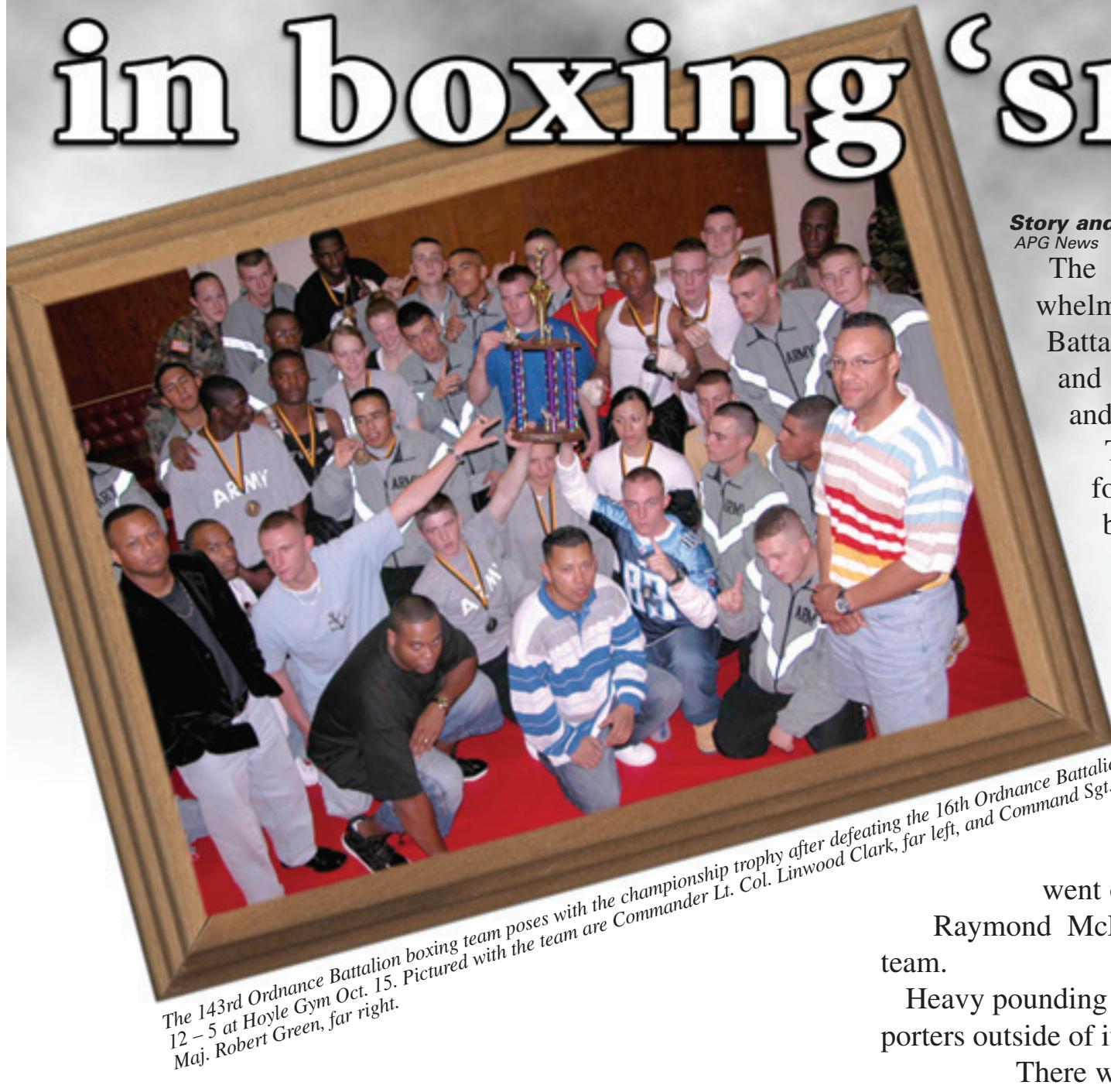
Supporting elements for the event included Capt. Darius Mydlarz and nurse Cynthia Parris from Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic who tended to fallen fighters, checked each boxer for signs of concussion, and treated bloody lips and noses after each match. Medical support included Emergency Medical Technicians from the APG Fire Department who were on hand to transport injured Soldiers, if necessary.

William Bravo, Company B 16th, served as the ring emcee.

In addition, Shelly Smith of the GNC store in the Post Exchange provided complimentary vitamin samples, energy drinks, pill cases and other gifts for attendees as well as a door prize of a gym bag filled with GNC goodies.

Along with the show of force, Kyley McDevitt and Brittany Novak treated Soldiers to a show of legs as ring girls. Every trip around the ring was greeted by approving whistles and cat calls.

Each boxer received a medallion for their participation from battalion leaders who included 143rd Ordnance Battalion commander Lt. Col. Linwood Clark and Command Sgt. Maj. Robert Green; 16th Ordnance Battalion commander Lt. Col. Richard Parker and Command Sgt. Maj. William Hart; and APG Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Elvis Irby.



The 143rd Ordnance Battalion boxing team poses with the championship trophy after defeating the 16th Ordnance Battalion, 12-5 at Hoyle Gym Oct. 15. Pictured with the team are Commander Lt. Col. Linwood Clark, far left, and Command Sgt. Maj. Robert Green, far right.

APG Amateur Boxing Tournament participants

143rd Ordnance Battalion

Julian Estrada
Javier Benavides
Victor Hill
Ivan Hollins
Garda Simmons
Carlos Camargo
Phillip Coffelt
Jimmy Williams
Mia Middleton
James Smith
Mark Hill
Scott Nann
Elester Warner
Maria Kelley
Roby Clodfelter
Travis Bass
Stephan Cunningham

16th Ordnance Battalion

Thomas Hensley
Cory Howard
Daniel Douglas
Michael Withers
Jauren Cabrea
Timothy Green
Reyes Ortiz
Antonio Hamilton
Tasha Isreal
Eric Reiner
Marco Billups
Eddie Davis
Antwan Farmer
Cody Landis
Antoine Smith
Dawain Robinson
James Jenkins



Cynthia Parris, a Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic nurse, checks out 16th Ordnance Battalion's Jauren Cabrea who was a little woozy after a loss to 143rd's Garda Simmons.



A swing and a miss by the 16th's Dawain Robinson, right, on Travis Bass of the 143rd, left, is watched closely by referee Joseph Cooper. Bass took the bout in three rounds.



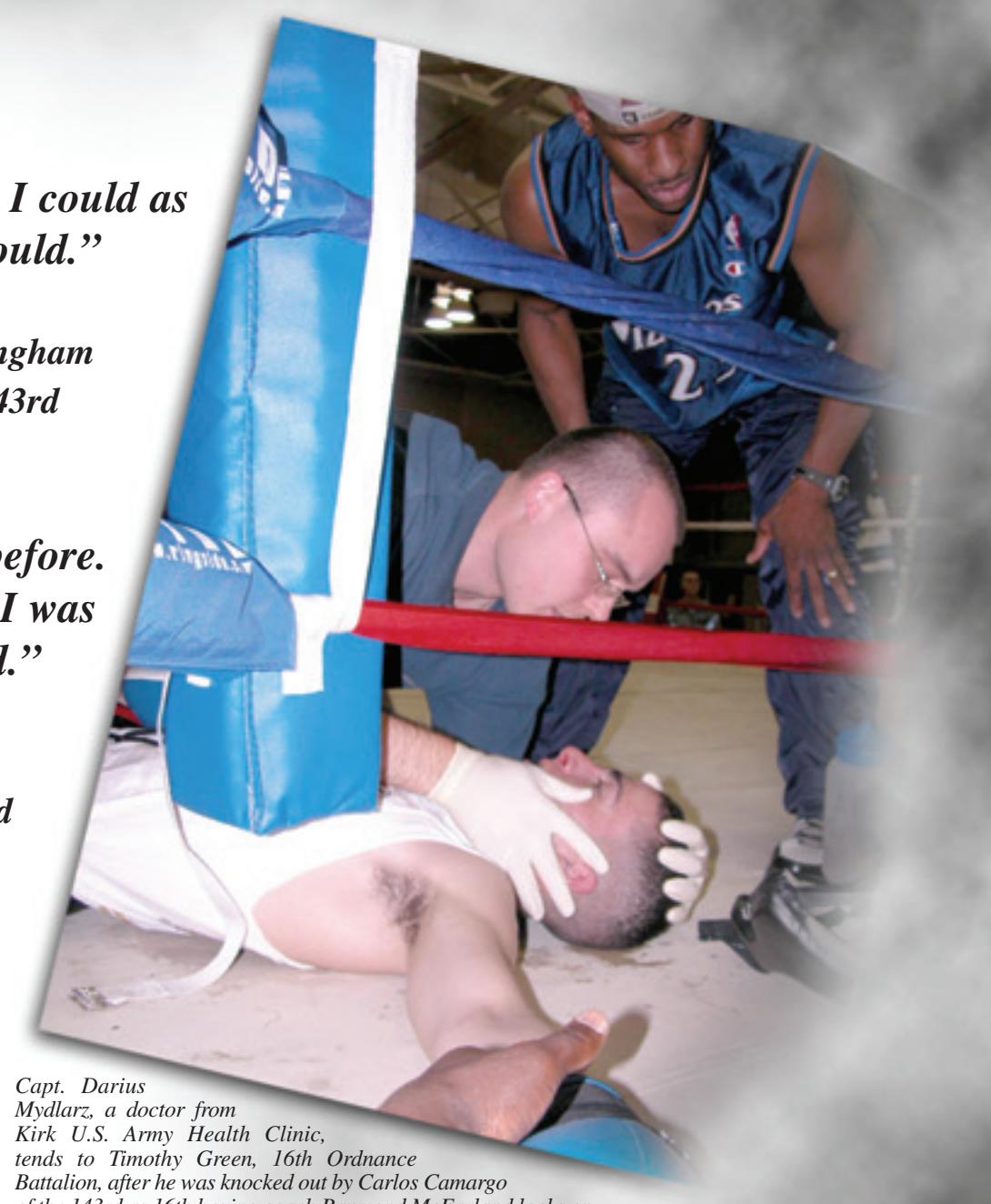
The 143rd's Ivan Hollins and the 16th's Michael Withers tangle it up during the fourth bout of the night. Hollins won the match.



The 143rd's Stephan Cunningham, left, raises one arm in victory as referee Joseph Cooper, center, raises the other after he's announced the winner of the night's final match against James Jenkins, 16th.



Antwan Farmer, 16th, left, takes one on the cheek from 143rd's Elester Warner, right, during the 13th bout which was stopped by the referee. Farmer got the win.



"I hit as hard as I could as quick as I could."

*Stephan Cunningham
Company B 143rd*

*"I never boxed before.
He did okay but I was more prepared."*

*Mark Hill
Company B 143rd*



Maria Kelley, 143rd, left, and Cody Landis, 16th, right, exchange blows during the 14th fight of the evening which went to Landis.

Capt. Darius Mydlarz, a doctor from Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, tends to Timothy Green, 16th Ordnance Battalion, after he was knocked out by Carlos Camargo of the 143rd as 16th boxing coach Raymond McFarland looks on.